



This information is what you need to know if a hazardous chemical agent is ever spilled or released in your neighborhood. Since industries make products created from chemicals that can be hazardous to humans, this information may be helpful in any type of chemical release, whether it's solid, liquid or gas.

Throughout the investigation of the former Cleveland Plant, a team of experienced professionals will be closely monitoring the air and testing the soils for mustard agent. Local emergency management, fire and police are informed and prepared to respond in the event of an emergency. By knowing what to do in case of an emergency, you and your family can remain safe.

***Working Together for a
Safer Environment***

Shelter In Place



**Guide to hazardous
chemical spills or
releases**



**US Army Corps
of Engineers**
Louisville District

Working Together for a Safer Environment

Be Aware and Prepare

During the environmental investigation of the former Cleveland Plant, located at the corner of E. 131st Street and Taft Avenue, the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers will be digging into the ground to look for the chemical agent, mustard, which was possibly poured into trenches during WWI. The Corps and its trained team of professionals must follow very strict safety procedures to ensure the safety of the area residents, businesses and workers at the site.

It is very unlikely a chemical release will occur, but in the event an emergency does happen, **a siren will sound in the neighborhood.** If you hear the emergency alert siren, follow the Shelter In Place guidelines. By knowing what to do in the event of an emergency, you and your family can remain safe.

How To Shelter In Place

Shelter-In-Place means to seek immediate shelter and remain there during a chemical emergency rather than evacuate the area. You should remain in your house or workplace. Plan to shelter in place in a room, preferably without windows on the highest level, that has access to a telephone, radio or TV, water, a toilet and can be sealed off easily with wet towels at the base of the door.

If an emergency occurs, go inside immediately. Shut off heat and air conditioners. Make sure fireplace dampers are closed. Close all doors, windows, vents, clothes dryer, ceiling fans and other openings to the outside. Go to your shelter room. If you think chemicals are still leaking into your home, cover your nose and mouth with a wet cloth or towel. Next, tune into your local news radio or local TV stations for more information. **Do not leave unless you are**

If an emergency occurs, go inside immediately. Tune into your local news stations.

asked to do so by local fire or police officials. The best thing to do is to stay inside and listen to the local news. Usually, any hazardous vapors are dispersed by the wind and shelter in place is the best way to limit any exposure. Sheltering in place is likely to last not more than an hour or two. When the emergency is over, an all clear will be announced.

If You Are Not At Home

If you are not at home and a chemical emergency occurs, you should follow the same steps for shelter in place, whether you are shopping, at the office or at school. Find shelter and stay inside. If you are in your car, remain inside. Be sure to close windows, doors and outside vents. Turn on your radio and listen for further instructions.

Shelter in Place Guidelines

- If the siren goes off in the neighborhood during the environmental investigation, go inside immediately.
- Shut off heat and air conditioning. Close fireplace dampers, windows, doors, vents and any openings to the outside.
- Have an emergency plan, such as a checklist with phone numbers for your doctor and family members. Keep phone lines open. Do not call 911 for information.
- Tune into radio news or local TV stations for more information.
- Be prepared to stay indoors for a few hours. Have supplies available, water, any necessary medications, a radio and flashlight.
- If you notice an unusual smell, visible smoke, fire or vapor cloud, experience skin or eye irritation, or breathing difficulty, seek shelter immediately, even if you don't hear the siren.
- Stay inside your home, business or school until an all clear is issued.

For information on hazardous chemical emergencies in the Cuyahoga County, call the **Office of Emergency Preparedness 216-664-2200.**

To find out more about the environmental investigation at the former Cleveland Plant, call the **U.S. Army Corps of Engineers 1-800-527-4636.**